

PATENT APPLICATION

1960.236

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
DONALD R. RICCI, ET AL.) Examiner: NYA
Application No.: NYA) Group Art Unit: NYA
Filed: January 31, 2001)
For: SMALL VESSEL EXPANDABLE) January 31, 2001
STENT AND METHOD FOR)
PRODUCTION OF SAME)

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WB
20-31-01

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend
the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel Claims 1-31 without prejudice

Kindly add Claims 32-55 as follows:

--32. An unexpanded stent comprising a proximal
end and a distal end in communication with one another, a
tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal
end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous
surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts, the
stent being expandable upon the application of a radially
outward force thereon to undergo plastic deformation to a